



ABN 31 416 737 307

Unit 9/1 Vuko Place, Warriewood NSW 2102

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www.surflifesaving.net.au

Rescue Water Craft Operator Certificate 2020 Training Program

From: Adrian Hill, SNB Director of Lifesaving and
Peter Finch, SNB Powercraft Adviser

Date: Tuesday 28th January 2020

Surf Life Saving Sydney Northern Beaches (SNB) is calling for applications to join the SNB RWC (Rescue Water Craft) Team. Training will be conducted at North Palm Beach on weekends during the off-season, commencing in May, and will continue for approximately 12 weeks.

Rescue Water Craft have the ability to provide increased surveillance of our coastline and rapid response to emergencies in high risk or unpatrolled areas. As RWC operators act as a single resource, all of our operators need to be highly trained, experienced lifesavers.

SNB Branch currently runs three RWC support service groups.

- Support Ski 1 based at North Palm Beach covers the area from Nth Palm Beach to Newport
- Support Ski 2 based at Newport Beach covers the area from Bilgola to Long Reef Headland
- Support Ski 3 based at Freshwater Beach covers the area from Long Reef Headland to Shelley Beach (Manly)

The RWC award is only available to financial SLS members who are applying to become members of the SNB RWC Support Operations team. Eligible members must hold a number of awards that are pre-requisites for not only the award, but also for the RWC Support Operations role. RWC Trainees must also be able to demonstrate a high level of skills in operating powercraft in large surf. Therefore, pre-requisites for the RWC Training Program in 2020 include:

- At least 18 years of age
- Hold a valid, NSW motor vehicle license and have the ability to tow an RWC trailer
- Bronze Medallion / Certificate II in Public Safety – proficient
- Provide First Aid certificate – current until 30/04/2021 or later
- Advanced Resuscitation Techniques certificate – proficient
- Silver Medallion Beach Management
- IRB Crew certificate – proficient
- Silver Medallion IRB Driver - proficient

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Acceptance into RWC training requires a commitment to complete the training program and willingness to undertake RWC patrols for at least two seasons, in addition to any other Club commitments the operator may have. Patrols will be rostered as determined by the SNB Powercraft Advisor and frequency will be dependent on the number of endorsed operators available that season. It is expected patrols will be approximately 1 day (or 2 half-days) per month.

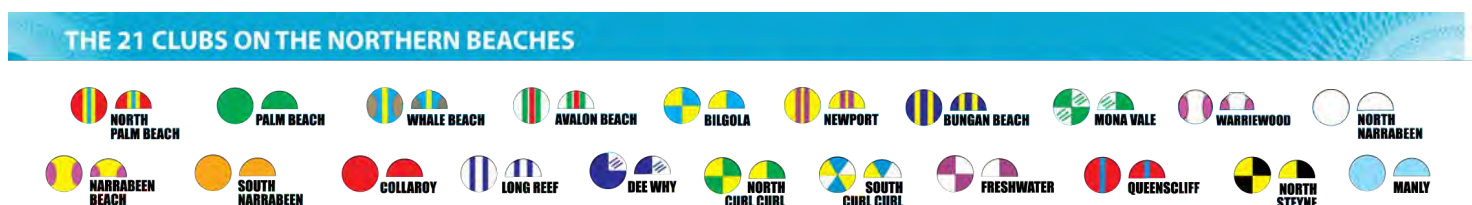
Applications must include the following:

- SLSSNB RWC Training Program Online Form endorsed by your Club President
- Signed RWC Operator Training Contract

The Application form can be accessed here:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=f-2sQFQ5dUy32QPCf17xzePon6RjHThBlhaZo1dj6PNUQUgwQTYrJdJMzFGQ0M5NDJBOUxWMFg0OS4u>

Applications must be submitted to SLSSNB Branch office by **COB Tuesday 31st March 2020**. Applicants will be advised of the result of their application in writing.





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Surf Life Saving Sydney Northern Beaches Rescue Water Craft Training Contract 2020

The following contract outlines the procedures during your RWC training with the RWC Support Services Group. Please remember that the RWC is a high profile craft. Used responsibly it is a valuable rescue tool. Irresponsible use will have permanent and serious consequences that affect all members of Surf Life Saving. As an RWC Trainee Operator, you must accept responsibility for your actions and recognise the need to operate the RWC in a low visibility and low impact manner.

- Prior to beginning RWC Operator training, the Trainees will demonstrate that they are knowledgeable in all SLS Signals. The Trainees will not be able to enter the training program without correct demonstration of 100% of SLS signals.
- Also prior to beginning RWC Operator training, the Trainees will perform a skills assessment as IRB driver and crewperson. The Trainees will not be able to enter the training program without demonstrating competency. Successful candidates will have their IRB Crew & Driver proficiencies entered onto their member record after 1st July 2020 by the Branch office.
- The RWC Training Officer or his appointee is in charge of all training at all times. They know the beach and area being used for training. They have final decision on where and when training will be conducted. If they decide training is to be postponed or moved their decision is final.
- The operator RWC Lanyard is to be attached to the driver at all times. The Lanyard is not to be left attached to an unattended RWC.
- Training will typically be conducted on weekends during the off-season. A commitment of 100% attendance is required. Exceptional circumstances will be considered provided early notification is given.
- If training is occurring during patrol hours, under no circumstances should the RWC be driven through the flagged areas or stopped in a position where it could be washed into the flagged area.
- If training is occurring during patrol hours, the Patrol Captain of the beach has the final decision on training or use. This includes considerations for crowd numbers, safe areas and concerns of use. If the Patrol Captain decides that the RWC is to be beached or moved to another area this direction must be obeyed immediately.
- The absolute minimum distance from swimmers and surfers is 60 meters. At all times the RWC must be kept at a distance away that does not cause concern to any swimmer or surfer in the water.
- Operation of the RWC under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs is prohibited. If the Training Officer deems you to be under the influence they will stop you from training and you will be removed from the training program.

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- Training times are to be adhered to unless prior arrangements have been made with the Training Officer. You are expected to arrive at the beach early and ready to start at the appropriate time. If you are late you may be stopped from training under the discretion of the Training Officer. Training does not finish until all equipment is washed, checked and packed up as this is part of the training.
- RWC Trainees will need their own wetsuit.
- Loan equipment (life jackets and helmets, etc.) must be returned at the end of each training session.
- The training venue and all equipment must be treated with respect at all times.
- The RWC must be driven in a controlled manner at all times and at a speed that does not cause concern to any other craft, swimmers, surfers, people on the beach, or observers. Excessive speed will not be tolerated.
- At no time is wave jumping or any other recreational or reckless driving permitted.
- The Training Officer or his appointee has final decision in determining if a breach of the above guidelines has occurred.
- Trainees will be given a two-strike system. If a second strike occurs a written ban will be issued outlining the breaches and removing you from the training program and all aspects of the service.
- Each participant recognizes that they must show continual improvement through the training program. It is up to the Training Officer to determine if the participant is progressing through the required learning outcomes. Participants will be given a reasonable chance to demonstrate their progression. It will be up to the Training Officer to determine if the candidate is suitable to continue with the training program if they are not showing improvement with their skills.
- All participants agree to serve the Branch with a minimum of 2 years' service after their training, accepting and agreeing to the requirements set out in the Operator Contract for all qualified RWC Operators.

I have read and understand the above training contract and guidelines and will adhere to these during my time with the SNB RWC Training Program.

Candidates Name: _____

Candidates Club: _____

Candidates Signature: _____

Date: _____

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